

Dear Indiana School Principal:

Enclosed is your school's 2010-2011 shipment of **OnTrack Student Success Mini-Magazines** and related print resources. Published by the state of Indiana, *OnTrack* is a unique publication that provides valuable information to K-12 students and their families: tips for a good start this academic year, the steps to get to and pay for college, methods of career exploration, an overview of Indiana's Academic Standards, an explanation of ISTEP+ and the GQE, and more.

In addition to the copies of *OnTrack* enclosed for the grade levels you serve, the following also has been shipped to you:

- **A newsletter for your building's educators**
 - It contains important information from the Indiana Department of Education.
 - Please be sure to share it with all of your teachers and other certified staff.
- **Spanish resources for all K-12 English language learners (ELL)**
 - Parents of ELL students in kindergarten to grade 2 should receive the grade-specific Spanish supplements.
 - ELL students in grades 3 to 12 should receive the Spanish edition of *OnTrack* for grades 3 to 12. They should also receive their grade's Spanish handout of information on Indiana's Academic Standards.
- **Twenty-first Century Scholars GEAR UP enrollment forms for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students**
 - There are enough enrollment forms in this shipment for all students in grades 6, 7 and 8.
 - Schools are required to provide enrollment forms to students who apply for free or reduced-price lunch.
 - Additional information about the program—including online applications—is available at www.scholars.in.gov.
- **Graduation Plans**
 - The **6th grade** Graduation Plan is still incorporated into *OnTrack: 6th Grade* and can be found on pages 11 and 12. Schools can use this part of the magazine to fulfill the requirements of IC 20-30-4-1.5.
 - Graduation Plans for **8th and 9th grade** students, which corporations can use to fulfill their legal requirements under IC 20-30-4-2, will be provided as part of College GO! Week along with *NEXT Indiana: A Guide To Life After High School*. For more information about College GO! Week, please visit CollegeGoWeekIndiana.org.

For all items, quantities were based on data submitted to the Indiana Department of Education with a significant overage to prevent costly reshipments. Due to budget limitations, shipments of additional materials cannot be made unless there was an error in your shipment. **Please visit LearnMoreIndiana.org/pubs if you believe your shipment contains an error.** If the website does not answer your question, you may also call 317-232-6611.

As always, thank you for everything you do in support of Indiana students.

Sincerely,



Dr. Tony Bennett
Superintendent of Public Instruction



Teresa Lubbers
Commissioner for Higher Education

Shipment Details

What did each school receive?

Each public and accredited-private K-12 school in Indiana received the following:

- **A newsletter for educators**
 - It contains important information from the Indiana Department of Education.
 - Please be sure to share it with teachers and other certified staff.
- **OnTrack for K-12 students and their families**
 - The magazines are jointly produced by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education and the Indiana Department of Education through the state's Learn More Indiana partnership.
 - Each version of *OnTrack* provides a grade-specific overview of information tied to student success: tips for a good start this academic year, the steps to get to and pay for college, methods of career exploration, an overview of Indiana's Academic Standards, an explanation of ISTEP+ and the GQE, and more.
 - Content is tied to the Indiana Student Standards for Guidance.
 - The Graduation Plan for 6th grade students is within *OnTrack*. (Graduation Plans for 8th and 9th grade students will be provided as part of College GO! Week.)
 - Suggested classroom activities for students are available at www.learnmoreindiana.org/pubs.
- **Spanish resources for K-12 English language learners (ELL)**
 - For parents of ELL students in kindergarten to grade 2, grade-specific Spanish supplements were created.
 - A Spanish edition of *OnTrack* was created for ELL students in grades 3 to 12. Grade-specific Spanish handouts on Indiana's Academic Standards were also created for these students.
- **Twenty-first Century Scholars GEAR UP enrollment forms for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students**
 - Middle school students who meet eligibility requirements (including family income) and make a pledge of good citizenship receive tuition scholarships for four years of undergraduate education.
 - More information—including an online application—is available at www.scholars.in.gov.

Quantities were based on enrollment data submitted to the Indiana Department of Education. Unless there is an error with the shipment, additional materials cannot be provided. More information is available at www.learnmoreindiana.org/pubs.

What are K-12 schools required to do under state law?

Distribution of all of the enclosed materials for students is mandated by state law:

- **Per IC 20-31-3-7, *OnTrack* must be given to all students**, as this publication fulfills each school corporation's legal obligation to give parents information on Indiana's Academic Standards. For similar reasons, Spanish resources should also be distributed to English language learners.
- **Per IC 20-33-5-15, applications for the Twenty-first Century Scholars GEAR UP program must be given to all students who apply for free or reduced-price lunch.** Furthermore, state law requires schools to give assistance with completing the enrollment forms. Students can apply for the program in 6th, 7th or 8th grade, so enrollment forms have been provided to schools serving those specific grades. Also, details on the program—including an online application—are available at www.scholars.in.gov.

Please view these legal obligations as basic requirements. The enclosed resources provide schools with tremendous opportunities to better serve their students. Here are some examples:

- Classroom activities are available at www.learnmoreindiana.org/pubs. Many school counselors and teachers explain *OnTrack* during class by using those activities or creating their own. Having your teachers or school counselors spend a few minutes reviewing *OnTrack* with students can greatly increase awareness of important information.
- Middle schools can host events to explain the Twenty-first Century Scholars GEAR UP program, and school counselors and teachers often follow up with students who are eligible for the program to ensure they apply.